

the ACLU and his community. For this reason, I rise today to honor and celebrate his life achievements.

Dick Kurtenbach's tenure with the American Civil Liberties Union has been prolific for the Western Missouri and Kansas region as well as fruitful for the entire Nation. He oversaw notable litigation, such as *Cruzan v. Director of the Missouri Department of Health*, which was heard by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1990. The ruling was a victory, by recognizing that patients are entitled to the fulfillment of their end-of-life care wishes. More importantly, the case raised much needed public awareness towards the importance of living wills, medical proxies, and other means of documenting those wishes and was lauded as a success by supporters. However, Dick's unwavering commitment to the values of liberty didn't always make him friends. In 1989, while I served on the City Council, his office filed suit on behalf of the Missouri Knights of the Ku Klux Klan arguing that the Kansas City, Missouri City Council had violated the Klan's First Amendment rights by denying them access to rant on a public cable TV channel. I remember being interviewed with Dick on "The Today Show" in New York City. As we walked out of the NBC studios, it was obvious that he was painfully uncomfortable having appeared to side with a group like the Klan. All I could do was put an arm on his shoulder and say, "Hey, I understand what you're doing and why." It is a tough job but he has done it time and time again. Dick's steadfast refusal to compromise on something as precious as our civil liberties is representative of the purity and character of the American way.

Dick Kurtenbach had been the Executive Director of the Kansas and Western Missouri ACLU since 1985 and was responsible for their original merger. Prior to that, he was the Executive Director of the Nebraska Civil Liberties Union from 1979 through 1985. He has worked on several Senate and Congressional campaigns, as well as for the Nebraska Democratic Party. Dick is a veteran of the United States Army, having served on active duty from 1967 to 1970, including 15 months of service in Southeast Asia. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Kansas City Civil Rights Consortium, The Human Rights Project, and the Western Missouri Coalition Against the Death Penalty. Dick graduated from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln with a Bachelors of Arts degree and is married to Joette Pelster.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in expressing our heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Dick Kurtenbach, not only for his unwavering efforts to preserve the tenets of our Constitution, but also for his courage in defending the individual rights of citizens, no matter how unpopular or difficult. I urge my colleagues to please join me, in congratulating Dick on his retirement as Executive Director of the Kansas and Western Missouri American Civil Liberties Union, and in celebrating his invaluable contributions and sacrifices to the cause of freedom.

H.R. 2745, THE HENRY J. HYDE
UNITED NATIONS REFORM ACT

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2005

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my strong opposition to H.R. 2745, the Henry J. Hyde United Nations Reform Act of 2005.

The United Nations is a critical multilateral organization that provides a vital and necessary forum for the U.S. to advance our Nation's foreign policy priorities as well as to improve and strengthen development, security and human rights around the globe. As an original founder and a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, the U.S. has an opportunity to shape the direction of future reforms and continue our important role of pursuing multilateral solution to the world's most challenging problems. Or, as this legislation appears intent upon achieving, the U.S. can withdraw support from the United Nations and watch from the sidelines as the world body withers, leaving our Nation isolated and at risk. The latter approach, I believe, would be a dangerous and foolish mistake.

For sixty years, the organizations and programs operating under the umbrella of the United Nations have been working to improve health, food security and human rights around the world; combating terrorism, narcotics trafficking and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; encouraging and empowering the protection of rights for women, workers, ethnic and religious minorities and persons with disabilities; and enhancing the security and upholding peace in areas devastated by conflict. The feeding, sheltering, and protection of millions of refugees and internally displaced persons worldwide, many of whom might not be alive today without such help, has also be a vital United Nations function. The sum of this work carried out by the United Nations, this very difficult work, has been a monumental achievement, much of it funded by the generosity of the American tax payer, that has improved the lives of billions of people and made our world safer, healthier, more peaceful and more just.

This legislation before the House, H.R. 2745, is deeply flawed. It would mandate drastic cuts to the U.S. funding obligation to the United Nations, unless the U.S. Secretary of State can certify compliance with 39 far-reaching, and detailed, reforms. Unfortunately, many of these reforms apply to related agencies that are out of the management authority of the United Nations Secretariat. In addition, this bill would put ongoing peacekeeping missions, and U.S. involvement in future missions integral to our national security, in jeopardy.

Reforms are needed at the United Nations. The debate on the floor clearly reflects that Democrats and Republicans agree on this fact. However, the U.S. has an opportunity, and I would say a responsibility, to play a positive and constructive role in reforming the United Nations, in a way that promotes greater transparency, more effective decision making, greater emphasis on oversight of the bureaucracy and a clear standard of accountability among member states for their conduct with relations to human rights.

The Henry J. Hyde United Nations Reform Act fails to provide the resources, the time,

and the flexibility to allow reform to be carried out correctly, as needed to sustain this great organization. This legislation blatantly puts politics before peace keeping and threatens to undermine the important leadership of the U.S. in the eyes of the international community.

The State Department strongly objects to key provisions of this bill including the key principle of linking of U.S. dues to United Nations reforms. Rather than starve the United Nations by unilaterally cutting support, I support the rational and reasonable alternative legislation, the bipartisan Lantos-Shays alternative to H.R. 2745, that would eliminate the mandate for funding cuts and empower the Secretary of State to withhold funds if suggested reforms are not met. This substitute appropriate encourages the U.S. to work with other nations to achieve real and lasting United Nations reform.

MR. JACK THOMAS' ARTICLE
FROM THE BOSTON GLOBE

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2005

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to bring to the attention of my colleagues an article from the June 20, 2005, Boston Globe about two legendary figures in Massachusetts politics. "The Loner in Winter," by Jack Thomas, gives us an update on the former mayor of Boston, Kevin White, and former State treasurer Bob Crane. White and Crane came out of the same political environment that produced larger-than-life personalities like Tip O'Neill, Joe Moakley and Silvio Conte. As the article shows, Bob Crane and Kevin White have developed a great friendship in politics that has lasted over 40 years.

Kevin White was the mayor of Boston for 16 years, from 1967 to 1983, and his friend Bob Crane served as State treasurer for 26 years. They became friends in the 1960s while campaigning together in western Massachusetts and have been close ever since. During his tenure in Boston, Kevin White was simply the best mayor in America. When I became mayor of Springfield, I looked to Kevin for advice and guidance, and he always steered me in the right direction. For young mayors seeking to make their mark, Kevin White was the role model to which we all aspired. He helped make Boston the great city it is today.

Mayor White is now suffering from Alzheimer's, but he still commands the room, with his remarkable presence and sparkling personality. Bob Crane also had a remarkable public career as treasurer, but is also known as a great singer and entertainer, specializing in the Irish songs that form an integral part of the Boston Irish political culture. When Bob was in office, he brought his musical talents and singing group, the Treasury Notes, to nursing homes and other centers to entertain the elderly, and he still does so today, as well as appearing at select political gatherings. Beyond the music, Bob exemplifies the cardinal virtue of loyalty in politics, and no one is more loyal to his old pal, Kevin White, than Bob Crane. When politicians gather in Massachusetts, Bob makes sure that Kevin is there and is honored for the great mayor he was and great American he is.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Jack Thomas' June 20 article from the Boston Globe be included in the RECORD, and I recommend it highly to my colleagues as an example of the type of politicians who valued friendships on both sides of the aisle and whom we can be proud of.

[From the Boston Globe, June 20, 2005]

THE LONER IN WINTER

(By Jack Thomas)

Having finished his cheeseburger and 7-Up at Doyle's Cafe in Jamaica Plain, Kevin H. White, the mayor of Boston from 1968 to 1983, got up from the corner booth and followed his pal of more than 40 years, former state treasurer Robert Q. Crane, who led the way into a back room so they could say hello to the monthly meeting of Romeo, a group of about 30 retired politicians, judges, reporters, and other scalawags from Boston's political past.

At 75, White is still trim, still handsome, and still dapper of dress, and he's still got the square jaw, the wispy white hair, the twinkling blue eyes, and the smile as wide as Commonwealth Avenue.

But for the man who defined politics in Boston over three different decades, these are difficult days.

Having gone through surgery that removed two-thirds of his stomach in 1970 and having survived a heart attack in 2001, he lives with a pacemaker. White always loved talking politics, but even simple conversation is a challenge now for two reasons. First, he is deaf in his right ear, and second, Alzheimer's disease is robbing his mind of those colorful memories of the days when he ran the city from the big office overlooking Faneuil Hall and, in the judgment of many, lifted Boston out of the doldrums and helped establish its reputation as one of America's favorite cities.

As Alzheimer's takes its toll, The Loner in Love With His City, as White was called, is even more of a loner these days and reluctant to speak publicly. But he girds himself and trails Crane into the back room, then brightens to hear applause from the gaggle of men, old and gray, who once had a say in running Boston a generation or two ago.

White shakes hands with former attorney general Robert Quinn and with Bernard "Bunny" Solomon, aide to governor Foster Furculo in the 1950s and now a trustee at Northeastern University, and then White stands in back, alongside Crane. "There are a couple of people here I want to introduce," says Bobby Hannan, a political reporter for the Boston Herald 40 years ago. "It's good to see Mr. Kevin White we're pleased to see you and your smiling face."

Most of the men put down their salad forks to applaud again.

"And," says Hannan, "former treasurer Bob Crane."

"You may not realize it," says Crane, never at a loss for blarney, "but this is the best luncheon you'll ever have, and the reason is that your guest is Francine Gannon," he says, pointing to one of Boston's wilier politicians, who served as an aide to congressmen Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill and Joseph Moakley and now to Senate President Robert E. Travaglini.

"Mr. Mayor," Hannan says deferentially, "would you want to say a word of greeting?" White winces.

He's unsure how to respond, uncertain what to say.

For an awkward instant, the room is quiet, until Crane leans in to White and says softly, "Say you're glad to be here."

White brightens, takes a step forward, smiles, and says in a strong voice, "I couldn't be more pleased to be here."

More applause. Do they cheer because he survived so many challenges in politics or because he just survived a challenge of old age?

A moment later, smiling and waving, White follows Crane from the room, out of the cafe, and into a car for the drive back to his home on Beacon Hill, where the surroundings are familiar, where he feels safer, and where the struggle with Alzheimer's is once again private.

White and Crane are the Romulus and Remus of Boston politics. Their friendship dates to the 1960s, when they campaigned together in Western Massachusetts, Crane for treasurer and White for secretary of state, an office he held from 1961 to 1967. The friendship grew through tennis holidays on Cape Cod and golf weekends in Florida and family vacations in Barbados and the Soviet Union, and who can say how many nights of counting votes and all the triumphs and losses and the laughter, too, that finally bring them together, as two old men, in a corner booth at Doyle's on a chilly afternoon in June.

Over White's left shoulder is a snapshot of the three who have served as mayor for nearly four decades: White, Raymond Flynn, and Thomas Menino, photographed under a Pickwick Ale sign. Over White's right shoulder is a copy of the Globe, Nov. 8, 1967, the first day of what would become the New Boston.

"White Goes In as Mayor with 5 New Councilors," reads a headline about White's victory over Louise Day Hicks. A photograph of the party at the Sheraton Plaza shows White, then 38, Hicks, Senator Edward M. Kennedy, governor John A. Volpe, and, in the background, Crane.

"I'm always in the background," he grumbles. "All my life, you've been putting me in the back row."

The political wars are in back of White now, and the punch and counterpunch of politics have faded into lore.

How much does he miss it?

"What?"

Crane: "How much do you miss being [in] office?"

White: "I loved every minute I was there but . . ." He pauses.

Crane: "The answer is . . ."

White: "Are you speaking for me or for us?"

Crane: "Us. We're sophisticated enough to know that our day is gone, and that we shouldn't be around bothering people."

Around Crane, White laughs heartily, but in conversation, he often asks Crane and a guest the same question three and four times in an hour: How long have we known each other? Where did you grow up?

How does he feel on a scale of 1 to 10?

"How what?"

How do you feel?

"About what?"

How is your health?

"I'm in good shape. I could beat you at anything," he says to Crane.

But your memory is not what it used to be?

"Well, that's for sure."

"You are forgetful," says Crane.

"Yeah, I am. But I don't travel or do things that would make that something to worry about."

You mean you spend more time with friends than with strangers.

"That's a good line, yeah, much more."

White brightens at a question about his daughter Patricia, who announced last week that she is a candidate for City Council.

How much of a role will he play? "I don't know. If she asked me . . . I take pride in watching her, and I don't want to interfere."

As mayor, White maintained a hideaway office on Tremont Street. During a private

interview late in his final term, he was asked about his legacy.

"The Prudential Center is [Mayor] Johnny Hynes. Center Plaza and City Hall belong to [Mayor] John Collins. But Faneuil Hall?" he said, leaning forward and pointing his thumb to his chest. "Faneuil Hall is mine!"

As he walks around Boston today, what gives him that level of satisfaction?

"I don't think of it much, but if I had to . . . if I thought . . . or if I were walking with you I don't think it's because of anything I've done. I'm not being coy, but I think it's the town, because Boston has a certain . . . what's the word?"

"Pride?" says Crane.

"Pride's a good word," says White.

"Spirit?"

"Spirit?" says White. "Yeah, Boston's got . . . is it charm?"

"Whatever it's got, Kevin, people say you were the best thing that happened to Boston. People walk right by me to get to you, which doesn't set too well with me."

White is embarrassed by the description of himself as the best thing that's happened to Boston.

"I'm not being a con merchant, but I don't think that's really true. A lot of people contribute. Don't you think the people of Boston have a certain . . ."

He pauses, tapping the table in frustration. "It has nothing to do with me, but Boston has and I can't quite . . . it's a certain . . ."

His face lights up as the word comes to mind. "Boston has a certain panache!"

At times, White and Crane seem as scripted as a Marx Brothers routine.

"I didn't recognize you in this 1979 picture," says Crane, "because you've got your hands in your own pockets."

"Aw, don't listen to him," says White, "honest to God."

How does White spend his time these days? "Well, I don't see many people."

Among those Crane lists who spend time with White, lunching, golfing, or attending Red Sox games, are Robert Beal, the property owner; George Carney, owner of Raynham-Taunton Greyhound Park; former treasurer John Driscoll; publicist George Regan; Jack Connors, chairman of the Hill, Holiday ad agency; and City Councilor Stephen J. Murphy.

"People say I spend a lot of time with Kevin, but it's time I love," says Crane. "It's time we love, because we're perfectly compatible. We disagree about nothing."

White smiles.

"We really do get along, don't we?"

HAITI—THE NEED FOR BALANCED ENGAGEMENT

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, events in Haiti over the last few months have been quite discouraging to those who seek stability and prosperity in that country.

A year has passed since the forced removal of President Jean Bertrand Aristide, the Nation's democratically elected leader. At the time, members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), as well as members of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) regional block lamented and criticized Aristide's removal.

Not only was Aristide's removal illegal, but it served to alienate those portions of the Haitian population which supported him, and further